

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

January 13th, 2024
Via Zoom

President Michelle Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Peri Suenram, Mike Hoffman, John Delmonte, Josh Keimig, and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: John Seymour and Clayton Miller

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser

The minutes of the December 18th, 2023, Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Michelle Van Dyke welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked the past Board members and past President Peri Suenram for their service, and welcomed the new Board members.

President Michelle Van Dyke proposed to the Board continuing a standing BOD meeting each month. She asked if the first Wednesday of every month would be convenient for everyone at 7:00 p.m. The Board felt that it was a good idea continue with the standing meeting as was done in 2023 and on the day and time. Michelle noted that if there was nothing pressing to discuss the meeting may be canceled and there would be flexibility for a change if need be.

NEW BUSINESS:

2024 Show Schedule

President Michelle Van Dyke asked all the Board members if they were able to review the tentative show schedule that was listed on the MCHA web site. She said there was a possible show addition in Corvallis (July 19-21). There is ongoing discussion on facility price and changing the ground to make the show feasible for MCHA. Michelle and Josh will continue pursuing a possible show.

Peri Suenram made the motion to approve all Montana in State shows and Big Piney for MCHA year end awards, seconded by Josh Keimig, passed unanimously on a voice vote. The Big Piney show will not be a qualifier show, which coincides with what was approved in 2023. Only in state shows shall be qualifier shows.

President Michelle Van Dyke opened the floor to a discussion on any out of state show approvals. Doug Pearce felt that two Wyoming CHA produces shows should be approved. Peri Suenram asked the Board to consider a Utah CHA produced show, so they may approve our Dillon show. Doug Pearce made the motion for the two Wyoming CHA produced shows and the Spring Ogden Utah CHA produced show to be MCHA approved shows (i.e. earnings will count towards year end awards). Peri Suenram seconded, passed unanimously on a voice vote.

President Michelle Van Dyke said that Andi James and Theresa Nelson had been putting some possible numbers together for a change in added money. They are suggesting for the money to go from \$1000 and \$500 to \$1500 in the Open aged event classes and \$750 in the Non-Pro aged event classes. Weekend classes would remain the same. The Aged event would be three shows over 4 days and the weekend would be 2 shows over 3 days. MCHA has not added any sand for several years and it would be time for new sand to be added/changed out for 2024. For this year the portable stalls will be moved to a dirt area instead of concrete. The Judges would change for the Aged Event and the Weekend show and Theresa Nelson would like the option to hire additional secretarial help. MCHA does not wish to increase the number of entries, just would like to see the flow of the show to be easier for everyone with nights being not as long. The Board agreed that new ground needed to be changed and more added money in the LAE would be agreeable. Michelle said that she has asked Andi and Theresa to put together some hard numbers by the next BOD meeting for further discussion.

2024 Approved Classes

President Michelle Van Dyke asked the Board if they felt there was a need to change the list of approved classes for the 2024 show year. The Board felt there was no need to change the class list for 2024. Our MCHA 2024 Approved Classes for Year End Awards will be as follows:

Open
Non-Pro
\$50,000 Amateur
Unlimited Amateur
\$25,000 Novice Horse
\$25,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro
Junior Youth
Senior Youth
\$35,000 Non-Pro
\$15,000 Amateur
\$5,000 Novice Horse
\$5,000 Novice Horse Non-Pro
\$2,000 Limit Rider
**Open Derby
**Non-Pro Derby
**Open Classic
**Non-Pro Classic

****It will be up to the show producer whether to offer these classes. All other approved classes must be offered in order for a show to receive MCHA approval.**

****1,500 Novice Horse or a Rancher Class may be offered by the show producer; however, it is not an approved MCHA class and will not be eligible for year-end awards.**

NCHA Show Rules Update

President Michelle Van Dyke asked the Board if they had some discussion on the rule changes that were provided. The main point that may affect MCHA members is the requirement to report all earnings regardless of the club or association the money was earned from. The Board would like to make sure the membership is aware that it is their duty to report earnings outside of NCHA and to remember that when they enter their classes. It was suggested to post it on the website, Facebook and a notice at the shows.

Never Won A Buckle Class (NWAB)

President Michelle Van Dyke asked Peri Suenram to lead the discussion on the 2024 NWAB shows. Peri said that the original goal of the Shootout was to make it a “big deal”, cross over to multiple affiliates, bring in more awards, allow people to qualify and to have the final in Big Piney since it was a central location. This year the plan is to again have the Shootout in Big Piney with the same qualifying basis. This year the Shootout will take place before the banquet at Big Piney.

Doug Pearce moved that MCHA give \$1000 to the NWAB Shootout, seconded by John Delmonte and passed on a voice vote. Peri said that in 2023 the NWAB class was offered at every show as long as the show was prior to Big Piney. She suggested to hold the NWAB Class at both Deer Lodge shows, Dillon and the May Millers show, the Board agreed. Kelly noted that she had 3 buckles left, Peri said she may have one as well.

2024 Year End Awards

Minimum Participation

President Michelle Van Dyke asked the Board if they would like to continue with the participation rule used in 2023. The Board said they felt last year worked out well for awards and competitors. Cindy Fraser made the motion to implement the three in state show participation rule for 2024, seconded by Mike Hoffman and carried on a voice vote.

Membership Deadline

Membership deadline will remain May 1st per Article II, Section 4 of the MCHA bylaws. Members must buy their membership by this date for any earnings prior to May 1st to count towards year end standings.

Special Awards

President Michelle Van Dyke asked Doug Pearce and Peri Suenram to discuss ideas for Open Horse of the Year and Non-Pro/Am Horse of the Year. Peri said with the issues over the last 4 to 5 years, she feels it would be best to no longer give Open/Non-Pro/Am horse of the year awards. The Board agreed that in order to eliminate some hard feelings and discord it is in MCHA's best interest to not give Horse of the Year awards in 2024.

The Special Awards for 2024 will be as follows:

- Adult Rookie of the Year. Eligible candidates include adult MCHA members in good standing, having \$0 NCHA lifetime earnings at the beginning of the show year and ending the show year with the most money won.
- Kim Asay/Most Inspirational (Voted on by the Board of Directors). The award goes to someone thought to be a fierce competitor, showing great sportsmanship both in and out of the arena, while continuing to place a high value on family, friends, and faith.

MCHA Approval Fees

#10 of the MCHA Rules and Regulations states that there is a \$4/run approval fee. The Board felt that at this time it is not in the best interest of MCHA or its associated show producers to ask for approval fees in 2024. Peri Suenram moved to waive the rule for the 2024 show season, John Delmonte seconded and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

2024 Operating Budget and Current Financials

Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser provided the Board with the 2023 year-end P and L as well as the yearly comparison and the show finals for 2023. She stated currently there is \$30,654.85 in the checking account and \$170,000.00 in CD's. There has not been much activity to discuss since the December meeting. Peri Suenram moved to approve the 2023 financials, Doug Pearce seconded, passed on a voice vote.

Kelly Fraser said that the Budget is a guestimate on what may come in 2024, and those numbers provided are simply an average over the last few years. She said the main discussion would be on 2024 year-end awards. Josh Keimig said he felt the 2023 budget was sufficient and the awards were great. Peri said she and John Seymore along with Josh were on board to work on year end awards again for 2024. Josh said he had some ideas for some awards to give out throughout the year such as something for the Futurity in Big Piney. Peri asked the Board to allow the committee flexibility on award placings to give. Doug suggested that the committee bring to the Board ideas of places to give awards to once the show season has started. The Board agreed that a budget of \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 would be great to work with in 2024, this will be revisited if need be later in the year.

President Michelle Van Dyke told the Board that Wyoming CHA would like to see the Big Sky Circuit Finals to be held at Miller's Horse Palace instead of holding their Gillette fall show. With the show in Billings, the finals may draw more participants. There are some options for

Miller's to hold the finals either at the September show or at a later date in October. The October date needs to be discussed further with Clayton Miller before any decisions is approved.

President Michelle Van Dyke asked the Board if they would like to continue offering free memberships to the prior year's sponsors of \$400 or higher. Doug Pearce made the motion to continue offering free memberships to the MCHA Sponsors at a level of \$400 or higher, seconded by John Delmonte and carried on a voice vote. It was decided by the Board that in 2024 it will be required that a Ranch and the Owner/Rider will both need to have a MCHA membership as consistent with NCHA rules.

Annual Review of Secretary/Treasurer Compensation

President Michelle Van Dyke said that Kelly would continue as the Sec/Tres through the end of January. Valee Miller will take over as Sec/Treas starting Feb. 1st, 2024. It was agreed the compensation for the MCHA Secretary/Treasurer position would remain at \$1000.00/Month.

2024 Committee Assignments

President Michelle Van Dyke assigned the following committees:

Show Committee: Per Constitution Vice President Doug Pearce is Chairman, Peri Suenram, and Mike Hoffman

End Awards: John Seymour, Josh Keimig and Peri Suenram

Year End Banquet: Cindy Fraser

Sponsorship: John Delmonte, Peri Suenram, and Josh Keimig **Goal of \$20,000 for 2024**

Nominating: Michelle Van Dyke, Cindy Fraser and Doug Pearce

Rules Committee: All Board Members

Issues for National Directors

Doug Pearce noted to the Board that Kristen York will be stepping down as a National Director for Wyoming and will be coming off the EC. He asked if perhaps John Seymour or Suzanne Nellen could look into who would become our Region 1 Director. President Michelle Van Dyke will also reach out and let it be known that we would like a person from our area to be appointed to the EC.

President Michelle Van Dyke said that we will again provide our National Directors \$1000 each to attend the NCHA Convention. The purpose is to reimburse them for their expenses as a thank you for their great representation.

Encouragement of New Membership

President Michelle Van Dyke asked all Board members to be thinking of ways to encourage membership throughout the year.

Signatory on MCHA Wells Fargo Checking Account

President Michelle Van Dyke, past President Peri Suenram and Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Fraser are currently on the Wells Fargo checking account. Peri Suenram will be removed, and new Vice President Doug Pearce will be added. Kelly will contact our Wells Fargo account manager and start the paperwork for Doug to be added and will get herself removed and Valee Miller added as new Secretary/Treasurer.

After Action Review of Voting Procedures

President Michelle Van Dyke said that she would like to see more confidentiality in the voting results. She said that she will reach out to Big Sky Internet Design and see if there are any changes, we may be able to make when the results are sent over to MCHA.

Affiliate of the Year Application

Peri Suenram has been working on the application to submit to NCHA. She said that the application is due in March. Peri would appreciate feedback from the Board on the Gratitude Report she has provided. President Michelle Van Dyke said she would work on getting letters of support to submit with the application. The Board told Peri the report was very well put together, explaining everything that was done in 2023.

Other New Business

None

President Michelle Van Dyke adjourned the meeting at 1:48 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

February 7th, 2024
Via Zoom

President Michelle Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Peri Suenram, Mike Hoffman, John Delmonte, Josh Keimig, Clayton Miller, John Seymour and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused:

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller

The minutes of the January 13th, 2024, Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Michelle Van Dyke welcomed everyone to the meeting.

President Michelle Van Dyke proposed to the Board continuing a standing BOD meeting each month. She asked if the first Wednesday of every month would be convenient for everyone at 7:00 p.m. The Board felt that it was a good idea to continue with the standing meeting as was done in 2023 and on the day and time. Michelle noted that if there was nothing pressing to discuss the meeting may be canceled and there would be flexibility for a change if need be.

Year End Show/Circuit Finals

Clayton Miller said he had talked with Cindy Frasier about accommodating the show schedule to make sure that it was finished in enough time for the year end banquet. This show will start on a Tuesday September 3rd, 2024, with the aged events, followed by the weekend show Thursday through Saturday September 7th, 2024. The schedule has not been set in stone, but the board unanimously agreed that it sounded good. With this Clayton expressed there being 2 goes of aged events for everyone. Discussion was brought up by Clayton Miller and we decided not to move the year end/ circuit finals date down because of a possible show happening in October, he has talked to Justin Johnson about Wyoming being on board and he thinks the schedule sounds good to him as well. He submitted paperwork for the shows on February 2nd.

Added Money & Show Schedule Big Piney

The discussion of the added money and show schedule needs to be pushed down to the next meeting as President Michelle Van Dyke had not heard from Theresa Nelson or Andy. Michelle Van Dyke trusts what they come up with as they have the best interests of all of us and doubts there will be much if any change.

Corvallis Cutting

Josh Keimig talked to the 5C Arena about having a cutting, they are hesitant to change their dirt to accommodate the cutting. Clayton Miller, Josh Keimig & Valee Miller were following up the meeting with a phone call to discuss talking with them more.

Audit

Valee Miller is going to reach out to Deena Bertrand on the Tax Evaluation for a current update. President Michelle Van Dyke asked for a vote to approve the financials sent with the meeting agenda, there were no questions on them. John Seymour moved to approve the financial statements and profit and loss; John Delmonte moved to second the motion. President Michelle Van Dyke asked for a vote from the board which was unanimous to pass the motion of approving the financials.

Awards Banquet

The awards banquet discussion included possibly looking into other venues or staying at the same venue as last year. John Seymour asked about moving it to the Golf Course Club House, Cindy Fraiser is going to check into it. Clayton Miller & Cindy Frasier are working together to make sure the scheduling of the year end show is conducive to the awards banquet. We will revisit this at the next meeting.

Deer Lodge Shows & NCHA Days

Peri Suenram led the discussion on the Deer Lodge & Dillion shows. The first Deer Lodge Show will be May 3rd -5th, 2024 and will be produced by Darrel Lee. The Treasure State Cutting approved the May 4th date as a co-approved show, with hopes of another Kentucky Derby Party.

NCHA Days will be held May 31st-June 2nd and per the rules there will be no aged events on the weekend, therefore all aged events will be held on the 31st of May.

The NCHA has given \$4000 to go to the added money at NCHA Days as well as sending prizes. Josh Keimig will be helping Peri Suenram with the awards with plans of using bridles that were extra from last year's awards banquet for circuit awards.

The cattle set up is ready. Peri Suenram opened the floor to any questions regarding the two shows, Mike Hoffmann was concerned about adding an extra day to help with the aged event classes, Peri Suenram suggested the aged horses pick weekend show classes to show in. The board then agreed to add a day of aged events to the beginning of NCHA days which would be completed prior to the start of the two NCHA Days.

The NCHA will not allow anyone to win an award that is not part of the Big Sky Circuit. They can win the class and get the money, but it will not count towards awards or points.

Theresa Nelson will be the secretary at both the Deer Lodge & Dillion shows.

Michelle Van Dyke thanked Peri Suenram and Darrel Lee for their hard work on these shows.

Affiliate Of The Year Application

Peri Suenram stated she and John Seymour led the discussion of gathering the 2023 gratitude reports which was emailed to all members and sponsors. They are going to use that report with letters of support from Wyoming, Utah & Arizona. John Seymour expressed how well Lynn Moore, Secretary for Wyoming CHA, letter was written. Kristen York will also follow up with a letter.

John Seymour & Suzanne Nellen as our national directors will send that packet in both email & mail a hard copy format to the NCHA Weekend Committee, which is submitted in March.

Peri Suenram expressed how great it would be to be awarded the Affiliate of the Year, receive the bronze and have a spot in the chatter and \$2500 for the association.

Michelle Van Dyke thanked Peri Suenram and John Seymour for their work on the Affiliate of the Year

Kristen York Replacement

President Michelle Van Dyke led the discussion that Kristen is hoping a previous position holder will come back. At this point she would like to work that angle.

Big Sky Internet Design Voting Change Update

President Michelle Van Dyke was able to reach out to Tom Bruch, who is our representative that handles the website for MCHA. After discussion he was able to re write the code to help with the confidentiality of the votes so they will now be received with their NCHA number and not with a name. Unfortunately, he cannot write the code to kick out duplicate votes, it will be the responsibility of secretary Valee Miller and President Michelle Van Dyke to double check the votes for duplicates.

Bonina Shows

It was a unanimous decision by the board to not approve the Bonina shows with the MCHA, we will add their shows to our schedule and give our support to help make their shows as successful as possible. Valee Miller is going to follow up with an email, tactfully declining the approval of their show with the MCHA.

Nampa Idaho Approval

President Michelle Van Dyke introduced the discussion of approving the Nampa Idaho show with the MCHA. Peri Suenram expressed how she feels approving Nampa would be in the best interest of the association as she feels they would support our Dillion show. With Ogden Utah & 2 Wyoming shows being approved it would fit to approve Nampa, Idaho. John Seymour also expressed the approval of Nampa would be in the best interest of the association. Any winnings would be counted to the MT Year End Awards. President Michelle Van Dyke asked for the motion to approve Nampa, Idaho. John Seymour made a motion to vote to approve Nampa into the MCHA shows, Peri Suenram Seconded the motion, which was denied by the vote count of the board.

After further review by the board a new telephone vote was conducted on February 13, 2024 to approve the Nampa, ID March show. The vote was unanimously approved with one member abstaining.

Show Committee Reports:

President Michelle Van Dyke opened the floor for any additions not stated in which Doug, Peri & Mike mentioned we had covered the discussion already.

Doug Pearce stated he had been in contact with the Judges for the Deer Lodge, Big Piney & Dillion shows and would touch base with Valee Miller on arrangements for them.

John Delmonte opened the floor to discussion with concern that a couple of the judges have not had anything on their docket for a couple years and would they meet the expectations of the contestants.

Peri Suenram brought attention to the payment schedule for the show judges, double checking that they are getting paid \$500 per day. Doug Pearce stated that one judge from Big Piney expected \$600 per day and we would need to match that for all judges at that show. The board discussed the increase of all things in the last 5 years and Doug Pearce is going to check back with all contacted judges to see if they can make \$500 per show day work for them.

Sponsorship Committee

President Michelle Van Dyke asked Valee Miller to check into all the sponsorship steps Kelly Fraiser took, and to continue on the same course. Michelle Van Dkye asked if Peri Suerman, John Seymour & John DelMonte what their plans were as a committee for their plan with sponsorships.

John DelMonte said he will work on getting the committee together to make a plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nampa, Idaho

This was discussed in old business.

Other New Business

None

John Seymour adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

April 3rd, 2024
Via Zoom

President Michelle Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Peri Suenram, Mike Hoffman, John Delmonte, Clayton Miller, John Seymour and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: Josh Keimig

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller, Darrell Lee (Past President/ Deer Lodge Coordinator)

The minutes of the February 7th, 2024, Board of Directors' meeting had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Doug Pearce made the motion to approve, John Delmonte seconded this motion. Minutes were approved on a voice vote.

The financial statements including the March Bank Statement, Reconciliation Report & P&L Report had been distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting. Peri Suenram motioned to approve the financials, John Delmonte Seconded the motion. Financials were approved on a voice vote.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Michelle Van Dyke welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Deer Lodge Show May 3rd-5th, 2024

Darrell Lee was welcomed to the meeting and given a large amount of appreciation for all his hard work, as well as Jessica's on the upcoming Deer Lodge Shows.

- Darrel was able to meet with Ross Wagner the manager of the cattle operations for the prison and he is willing to put together a "Fire Crew" in which consists of trustee prisoners which will be coming to the fairgrounds and helping with the setting up/ tearing down of the show.
- Darrel asked if a few of the board members would be available to come early to assist in the setting up of the show.
- He has spoken with Kale Berg, a local rodeo stock contractor, who has 150 head of mixed cattle in which he is planning to use for fresh cattle practice.
- He was able to negotiate \$30 per head on cattle charges and trucking charges of just \$6 per head, which is fabulous.
- The panels are there and will be available to use

- There is still some sand left from last years cuttings, in which, more sand will need to be hauled in before the show. With both shows being so close together Darrell thinks there will not be a need for more sand for the second show.
- Shavings will be onsite and available
- The fairgrounds is under a bit of construction at this time, they are working on putting in more plug ins, which will be great for future use.
- Jessica has been taking stall reservations. Mike Wood is planning on bringing 30 head which will lead to all turnback horses needing to be stalled outside in panel stalls which will be set up.
- Ryan Kelly has agreed to help Doug Pearce in the back during the show
- There is still need for a food vendor which Darrell Lee was reaching out to those who did it last year.
- Peri Suenram is helping get the motel rooms for the Judge, Videographer, Announcer & Secretary

Added Money & Show Schedule Big Piney

The discussion of the added money and show schedule needs to be pushed down to the next meeting as President Michelle Van Dyke had not heard from Theresa Nelson. Theresa Nelson will be gone for the second Deer Lodge show and will be having someone replace her for the in person business.

Affiliate Of The Year Application

President Michelle VanDyke announced that John Seymour was able to get the Affiliate Of The Year Application submitted to the NCHA.

Nampa Idaho

President Michelle Van Dyke asked Valee Miller if she had received the results from the Nampa, ID Show. Valee has received the results but is waiting for the NCHA to finish auditing them so she can get them added to fastercuts for the MCHA.

Valee Miller brought up discussion of letting all members know in which had attended Nampa as well as Utah that they had until May 1st, 2024 to buy their MCHA membership. Doug Pearce suggested we send a Constant Contact one week prior to every show reminding all members of all the show details.

Show Committee Reports:

President Michelle Van Dyke opened the floor for any other updates for the upcoming shows that were not already discussed.

Sponsorship Committee

John DelMonte expressed that he feels all of the board should be part of the sponsorship committee. Everyone has different connections and relationships and we can all use them in a joint effort to gather more sponsorships.

Valee Miller was asked to send the sponsorship list to the entire board with a column for status so no sponsor is contacted multiple times.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

Other New Business

None

Clayton Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

May 24, 2024

Via Zoom

President Michelle Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Peri Suenram, Mike Hoffman, Clayton Miller, John Seymour, Josh Keimig and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: John Delmonte

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Michelle Van Dyke welcomed everyone to the meeting and called it to order at 7:12pm, and had Secretary Valee Miller call roll call.

Deer Lodge Show May 3rd-5th, 2024

President Michelle Van Dyke mentioned the difference in costs of the King Cattle shows from 2023 to 2024.

- **Question on P & L**
- The secretary, Jamie, charged for 1 head of practice cattle per work instead of 2 resulting in a \$45 charge instead of a \$90
 - There were 72 head of fresh cattle works & 42 head of used cattle works.
 - This was charged as \$1800.00 instead of \$3200.00
- Clayton Miller made a motion to have Theresa Nelson rectify the practice cattle at Cattle King Show by charging contestants the difference. Doug Pearce seconded this motion. President Michele Van Dyke Motion Carried
 - Theresa Nelson has agreed to rectify this at the upcoming NCHA Days show. The sheets from Kathy Greenwell will be used to help decide who owes an additional work fee.
- The Judge, Shane Stovall charged \$500.00 per day plus a per diem.
 - The board decided to just eat the additional charges and make sure the Judges invoice is run in front of one of the board members before being paid.
- The secretary, Jamie charged the trainers a turn back fee (this was a stall charge essentially) instead of charging a turn back fee per show horse.

- Clayton Miller asked what the options are on trying to rectify this. With the turnback charge normally being used to cover the turnback stalls, it was asked how many turnback stalls there were used at the show.
- Clayton Miller asked what our charge is at the facility for the stalls the turnback horses are in, which Michelle Van Dyke confirmed was \$25.
- It was decided to charge an additional \$5 turnback fee at the upcoming NCHA Days show to help cover the turnback costs from the King Cattle
- Darryl Lee is going to meet with Ruth at the Fairgrounds and have them bill us over the two shows. We are going to talk to them about our losses and see if they would meet us in the middle with the NCHA show being a boom for their community.
- We did have to buy a considerable amount of sand, which we were given a small break on, but it was a large cost for the show.
- There is over \$6,000 outstanding, which includes the cost of the facility, several outstanding settlements from the contestants who did not settle up prior to leaving the show.
- Peri Suenram asked if Theresa Nelson & Valee Miller could work together to figure out what settlements had not been paid and figure out who all is on that list. She suggested anyone with an outstanding balance not be in the draw of NCHA days until their bill is rectified.
- Michelle Van Dyke & Doug Pearce had a discussion that Doug would be contacting the judges for the rest of our shows to make sure they are getting just the \$500 per day.
- Cindy Fraiser asked what the difference between 2023 and 2024 cattle costs was, Peri Seunram answered her with we used 3 head of cattle per cutter instead of just 2.5.
- Peri Suenram stated that at the board meeting in January the board had decided to keep the costs down, in which was done, in future the entry fees could be increased to help with the bottom line.
- Peri Suenram brought up the fact we were able payout 8% more comparing total payout to entry.
- Peri Suenram suggested that if we are going to collect additional cattle practice fee, we should collect the turnback fee, and credit the trainers who were wrongfully charged for them.
 - Mike Hoffman gave examples from Idaho and Utah explaining that there is no turnback fee charged to anyone. The turnback horses pay for their stalls as well.
 - Doug Pearce suggested that we go through the show and re bill those show horses who were not charged.

Peri Suenram makes a motion that Theresa Nelson go back through the show and rectify the turnback fees as well as the cattle work charges, and credit back the trainers on the turn back fee.

Doug Pearce seconds this motion. Michelle Van Dyke, Motion passed.

NCHA Days

- President Michelle Van Dyke touches base with Peri Suenram on what still is needing done and where help is needed at the upcoming NCHA Days.
 - Peri Suenram says its all coming together very well.
 - Josh Keimig is meeting Roy and Gus to power wash the back fence and rehang all the banners.
 - Josh Keimig has a verbal commitment from Jann Parker with BLS for a \$1000 show sponsorship.
 - Fresh cattle practice will start at 9am
 - Ryan Kelly will be bringing cattle Thursday evening and Doug Pearce agreed to be there when the cattle come in.
 - We will be using 2.5 head per show contestant, hoping to have fresh cattle for the jackpot classes as well.
 - The show is currently set up with fresh cattle prices.
 - Doug Pearce stated that it shows that the cattle charge is \$110 and we are losing money on that.
 - The fresh cattle charge is supposed to \$145
 - This is the way it was at the Cattle King show and that is why we are losing money on the cattle.
 - Peri Suenram said that we have a fantastic lineup of awards
 - Peri Suenram is working with the sand guy and hoping to not have him bring in his skid steer to spread the sand to save money
 - Updates from Cindy Fraser on a picture back drop for the show. Michelle Van Dyke suggested that we get table clothes from the dollar store to work at the show. Bridle hooks for the prizes, and possibly flowers,
 - Scoot Em & Shoot Em photography will be there.
 - Getting the prisoners to tear down, and if everyone on the board could stay for 45 min after the show it can all be torn down and loaded on the flat bed for Dillon.
 - Peri Suenram asked Doug Pearce if we had the rooms straight for the NCHA days so we didn't have any extra rooms booked.

Dillon Show June 13th-16th, 2024

- Changing the judges plane ticket to accommodate dropping Sunday.
- By going to a 3 day show we feel as though we will be able to cover all the cattle with three full shows.
- John Seymour stated we had a \$2800 sand credit from 2023 which will cover the rent of the facility.
- John Seymour talked to Roy Oliver to set the pen up in which he feels will work the best for the show.

- Eric is helping John Seymour with moving the sand around, and the football players help with setup.
- John Seymour talked to the cattle man about numbers and making sure we have enough cattle, 3 head for all contestants, we will use 2.5 head for all the jackpot classes.
- The cattle will be coming in earlier and let them settle in the pen longer to hopefully help with them being more consistent.
- There was discussion between Mike Hoffman and John Seymour about cattle quality and what we can do differently to try and keep them consistent and happy throughout the show.

NEW BUSINESS:

Montana High School Rodeo Association

- The Montana High School Rodeo Association has requested that we sponsor the boys & girls State Championship Buckles in Kalispell, MT for \$500.00
 - John Seymour stated in years past we have sponsored these buckles, and he really feels that it was been great publicity for the MCHA. The board agreed.
 - Clayton Miller makes a motion to sponsor the Montana High School Rodeo Association Buckles. Peri Suenram Seconds this motion. Michelle Van Dyke motion passed.
- Lynn Moore had also contacted Michelle Van Dyke about giving \$500.00 to the youth at the Torrington, WY cutting. This is something we have done in the past as we have had contestants competing down there. This year, besides Cole Johnson, we are unsure of the Montana youth members that will be there.
 - This money went to the high point Montana youth cutter.
 - John Seymour stated that he feels like we should use the Angela Bauer Scholarship money for this.
 - Peri Suenram informed the board that the Angela Bauer scholarship has to be awarded to a Montana kid, which is in the bylaws.
 - Mike Hoffmann suggested we support both associations.
 - John Seymour makes a motion to use the Angela Bauer Scholarship at the Wyoming cutting using the stipulations of the Angela Bauer Scholarship to award \$500 to the winner. Peri Suenram seconds this motion. Michelle Van Dyke Motion Passed.

Other New Business

None

John Seymour adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

July 10th, 2024

Via Zoom

Vice President Doug Pearce called the meeting to order at 7:11pm

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Peri Suenram, Mike Hoffman, Clayton Miller, John Seymour, John Delmonte and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: Josh Keimig

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vice President Doug Pearce welcomed everyone and had Secretary Valee Miller call roll call.

Big Piney Show August 8-11th, 2024

- Doug Pearce talked to Andi James and she said the show is coming along nicely
- John Delmonte is happy to help haul stuff down and help find a ride for things back.
- Peri Suenram is working with Andi James on all the cattle, the Miller's will once again be our main source of cattle.
- Peri Suenram has prizes she will be bringing down to use for the show.
- We will be buying sand this year, which will affect the bottom line differently than in years past.
- There will be no Mike Woods Clinic, he is going to California to that show as it has more added money for him.
 - The board had discussion on this, Clayton Miller suggested that we find another clinician to add to the Big Piney show.
 - John Delmonte suggested a Mike Hoffman, Roy Oliver clinic. Mike Hoffman and John Delmonte agreed to work on putting something together. They will have Valee put something together for the clinic flyer.

Deer Lodge Show May 3-5th, 2024 NCHA Days May 31st- June 2nd, 2024

- Valee Miller is re- running the numbers, re- checking the settlement sheets so we can double check the numbers, as we still have outstanding clients.

Dillion Show June 13th-16th, 2024

- The final P & L of Dillon shows us having a profit of \$858.00
- There was a board discussion about the positives of the show and the negatives,
- John Seymour stated that they are trying to get a master's degree in their program, if that is the case they will not have room for a cutting next year.

- John Seymour will be stepping away as the Dillon show producer for future years. The board very much appreciates all the time and effort that was put into the show.
- There was a board discussion of the letter sent out to the board following the Dillon show, with discussion the board agreed on what we could do to strengthen the membership.

Never Won A Buckle

- Peri Suenram and Danielle Pace have been doing the never won a buckle in Utah and Montana for the last 3 years.
 - They have 20 people qualified for the shootout.
 - They are looking for someone to take over this program next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Angela Bauer Scholarship

- Michelle Van Dyke asked the board if they had the meeting minutes on the Angela Bauer Scholarship and able to read them and give some clarification on how the scholarship works.
- The committee asked if they would have an Angela Bauer Scholarship cutting in Big Piney with the Youth show. Theresa Nelson will make sure this is on the list for the show.

Other New Business

NCHA Convention in Nashville

- John Seymour represented us at the National Convention
 - New regal 1 director in Les Jack from Canada
 - \$35K, \$15K & \$2000 raised the cap on entries to \$250
 - They have a new judging sheet, 3 slots to judge each cow, it will make it easier for the contestants to read and understand why they judged it the way they did.
 - Please look over the changes in the EC listed in the chatter, if you have questions or concerns, please contact John Seymour.
 - Region 1 has the best attendance at the convention.
- **Amateur Committee**
 - Purposed changes to eligibility, what it means to be an amateur vs a non pro.
 - You should be getting an email of what an Amateur and a Non Pro can and can not do.

Clayton Miller adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

August 28th, -2024
Via Zoom

President Michelle Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Josh Keimig, Mike Hoffman, Clayton Miller, John Seymour, John Delmonte and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: Peri Suenram

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vice President Doug Pearce welcomed everyone and had Secretary Valee Miller call roll call.

The Vice President Doug Pearce moved to approve the meeting minutes from July, 20th, 2024. Clayton Miller seconded this, minutes were approved,

Big Piney Show August 8-11th, 2024

- **Stall Damaged from a Microburst that went through Big Piney on the 17th.**
 - There was discussion of stalls that had been damaged due to a microburst, and what that would mean for the MCHA.
 - There was discussion from the board after reading the stall contract as to if the MCHA was still responsible for the stalls or if they were no longer under contract.
 - Andi James, show manager, had been in contact with President Michelle Van Dyke to help her with correspondence on the stall situation.
 - Andi James has never had insurance put on the stalls, in which the contract stated. No one had seen the contract besides her, so there were never arrangements for insurance to be made.
 - President Michelle Van Dyke will be in contact with legal counsel if needed.
 - The board agreed to wait and see if there was contact made from the stall company
- **P & L Big Piney**
 - John Delmonte brought up the discussion of extra shavings purchased, if the board would be able to re sell them for that they had paid for them
 - There is a little over \$11,280 worth of extra shavings to be sold
 - Secretary Valee Miller discussed the P & L from her side as she had been in contact with loose ends. With the shavings being sold for the \$11,280 the board should clear \$1943.33, barring any outstanding items that were unaccounted for.

We put the facility cost in as a total of \$32500 with possibility of this number changing as we get our bill from the facility.

- John Delmonte asked how many runs happened at Big Piney in 2024. 668 Runs in 2024. Cindy Frasier asked the comparisons from 2023 to 2024. The board agreed they would like a comparison of runs included in the P & L
- Cattle were substantially more expensive in 2024, President Michelle Van Dyke stated they had to pay trucking in which they didn't have to pay in the past.
- Sand was purchased in 2024 for \$7500, President Michelle Van Dyke stated we should not have to purchase sand for 1 to 2 years.

Miller's Horse Palace September 4th-7th,2024

- Clayton Miller asked for sponsor banners to be brought over to hang for the show.
- New constants on the list coming over that had not been to Montana before.
- The show should be substantially bigger than years past.
- There was board discussion of the General Membership Meeting on Friday as to the best time to have it, conclusion of the show or take a break. Clayton Miller expressed his concern of stopping the show and getting enough people to sit down and join it.

NEW BUSINESS:

General Membership Meeting

- Finalize the agenda. If there are suggestions for topics of general discussion. President Michelle Van Dyke mentioned trying to find more venues for 2025. John Delmonte brought up discussion of merging the MCHA and the WYCHA into one membership to allow ease of working together and planning shows.

Other New Business

Kim Asay Award

- President Michelle Van Dyke asked for any other nominations. Vice President Doug Pearce moved that Valee Miller send out a ballot with the three nominees. Cindy Fraser seconded the motion. Motion Passed

Nomination Committee

- Open up additional nominations for the spots on the board, as well as the Vice Presidency.
- Doug, Michelle & Cindy have been working diligently on finding nominations.

NCHA Days

- Plans have been made to have NCHA Days in May of 2024 in Sheridan, Wyoming

Other Discussion

- John Delmonte suggested starting our Sponsorship search for 2025 in November.

John Seymour adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

November 6th, 2024
Via Zoom

President Michelle Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

Directors Present: President Michelle Van Dyke, Vice President Doug Pearce, Clayton Miller, Peri Suenram, John Seymour, John Delmonte and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: Mike Hoffman & Josh Keimig

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller, New Elect Board Members, Jann Parker, Cody Lee, Ashley Lee

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Michelle Van Dyke welcomed everyone to the meeting, Secretary Valee Miller called for the Roll Call.

President Michelle Van Dyke asked for approval for the General Membership Meeting Minutes

*Cindy Fraser stated she was present and not listed as a present director, President Michelle Van Dyke asked Valee Miller to make that change.

With the correction John Seymour made a motion to approve the General Membership Meeting, seconded by John Delmonte, Motion Passed.

Treasurer Report & YTD P & L

- President Michelle Van Dyke led the discussion in which Valee Miller had included the 2023-2024 P&L to the board to look at comparisons from year to year
 - Comparisons included changes in entry numbers for each show, More expenses incurred at several shows, & the show in Big Piney was much smaller in 2024 for generation of income.
 - Big Piney approximate loss of \$3800 which is what is in shavings for next year, making it a loss.
 - Cattle costs were close to double from previous years.
 - Fewer Entries
 - More expense for ground & facility
 - Difference in shavings, more purchased than needed that are now sitting in storage, 8 Pallets

President Michelle Van Dyke opened discussion to the board for questions on the P&L. John Delmonte brought up key ideas for the P&L to make it easier to read for comparison from year to year, with totals and not so many breakdowns, separately for each show.

- Deer Lodge shows shared expenses as well as income, which made a few blurred lines between the two shows.
- In the big picture there was a loss of \$9931 in putting on shows for the MCHA this year as a whole.

President Michelle Van Dyke asked for a motion to approve financials up to 11/1/2024. Clayton Miller made the motion to approve financials, seconded by Doug Pearce, unanimous approval, motion passed

Committee Reports

- **Awards Committee**

- John Seymour led the discussion on the year end awards stating they could order chaps or buckles, in which most paid the buckles. Buckles were mailed, hat numbers should be coming in. Peri Suenram added the jackets were going to be slower due to unforeseen circumstances.

- **Show Committee**

- President Doug Pearce led this discussion, he thought 2024 had good shows. Looking forward to 2025 he confirmed there will be two shows in Deer Lodge but was still working on getting a show in Dillon, Montana in June.

- **Sponsorship Committee**

- President Michelle Van Dyke led the discussion on 2024 sponsorships. She stated we brought in \$6800, compared to past years this was down substantially. There was a total of 13 sponsorships brought in, hoping in 2025 we can pool together to bring in more sponsor money for the association. John Delmonte would like to start gathering sponsorships earlier in the year, starting now. Setting a goal of reaching out to so many people by a certain date so there is time to see where the board is at. It is the responsibility of the board as a whole to all bring in sponsorships.

- **Joining the Montana & Wyoming Cutting Horse Associations**

- John Delmonte led the discussion to try to work together to help both associations to thrive.
- Peri Suenram stated that Michelle, Peri & Kelly Fraser hosted a meeting with all surrounding states to make a calendar to try and work together, but ultimately the variables of each show determines when they are going to have their shows.
- There was unanimous agreement that the associations should not join into one.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Board with New Vice President

- President Michelle Van Dyke welcomed the New Vice President, Ashley Lee, as well as board members Kelly Frasier, Jann Parker & Cody Lee. She also thanked Clayton Miller, John Seymour, Peri Suenram, & Josh Keimig for their time spent on the board.

New Show Venues

- President Michelle Van Dyke stated that the venue in Vaughn has had a situation change and the possibility of having a show in 2025 would be possible.

NCHA Days

- Plans have been made to have NCHA Days in May 16- 18th of 2025 in Sheridan, Wyoming

Other Discussion

- Peri Suenram congratulated President Michelle Van Dyke on a great year for the end of her role as President of the board.

Clayton Miller made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m., Doug Pearce Seconded the Motion. Meeting was adjourned by President Michelle Van Dyke.